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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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The Honorable Stuart Symington  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Symington:

Some time ago you expressed concern regarding the sale of Southern Air Transport to Mr. Stanley Williams primarily because of the requirement that this sale receive a full hearing before the CAB with the attendant difficulties.

After careful review of all the equities involved we plan to have Mr. Williams withdraw his application for purchase of Southern Air Transport as a supplemental air carrier from the CAB by the first of December. At the same time Mr. Williams will return the supplemental certificate to the CAB thereby removing Southern Air Transport from CAB jurisdiction. I hope that this will preclude additional publicity concerning the Agency and the company which gave you concern.

In view of our previous contracts with Mr. Williams I have authorized the sale of the assets of Southern Air Transport to him under the terms of the original contract providing that he will continue to operate the company under a FAA 121 authorization. In such operation he will not be competing as a supplemental carrier particularly in the area of Government contracts but would be operating primarily as a contract carrier.

The above proposal is subject to Mr. Williams' obtaining acceptable financing by 30 November 1973. Should he fail to obtain financing, steps will be taken to dissolve the company and dispose of its assets in a manner designed to return the maximum value to the Government.

I believe this action will satisfy the concerns raised by you. If you have any questions on this matter I will be glad to answer them.

Sincerely,

W. E. Colby  
Director